



# THE COURT *Legacy*

The Historical Society for the United States District Court  
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## Judge McCree: The Great Soul Who Made “A Thund’rous Sound”

By Andrew S. Doctoroff

He died 15 years ago from bone marrow cancer, but his name, Wade H. McCree, Jr., still resonates throughout the legal community like a crash of cymbals that echoes through time. The New York Times stated in his obituary, “He was considered one of the black jurists who rose to greatest eminence in recent decades, along with Thurgood Marshall.”

Indeed, the heights scaled by Judge McCree were numerous. He was the first African-American ever appointed to a Michigan circuit court. He was also the first African-American judge ever to win an election in Michigan. This was no small feat given that, when he was appointed to the Wayne County



Circuit Court Judge McCree and Governor Williams

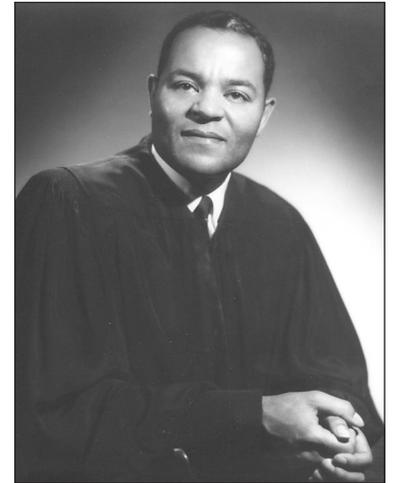
Circuit Court in 1954 by Governor G. Mennen Williams, most political observers thought that he would have no chance to win the open election that would follow. The one African-American judge

previously appointed to the Detroit Recorder’s Court failed to be elected in Detroit itself, and Judge McCree stood for election in, not only Detroit, but also in the almost exclusively white suburbs that surrounded the city.

He served on the Wayne County Circuit Court bench from 1954 until 1961, when President John F. Kennedy appointed him and James Benton Parsons to become the first two African-Americans to sit on a federal district court.

Judge McCree served on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan for five years, until 1966, when President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed him as the first African-American for the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Then, in 1977, President Jimmy Carter appointed him Solicitor General of the United States. Finally, in 1981, he joined the faculty of the University of Michigan Law School.

Judge McCree’s successes, like many of our successes, can be attributed, in part, to good fortune. He was born in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1920, a time when very few African-Americans were able to attend college; however, both of his parents graduated from college and instilled in their son a dedication to education and learning. His father was said to have operated the first pharmacy in Iowa owned by an African-American. He was also fortunate that his legal career dovetailed, not only with the civil rights movement, but also



District Court Judge McCree

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with the ascension of political leaders like Governor Williams and Presidents Kennedy, Johnson and Carter who were committed to appointing African-Americans to the judiciary and high public office.

Finally, he benefited from the fact that, when he received his various appointments, the pool of qualified African-American lawyers from which nominees were selected was small. "The contribution of Negro lawyers to the life of America [when I entered the legal profession] was not outstanding," Judge McCree has stated. "There were very few who had more than local reputations. You have to put this in context. In the south, black lawyers, many couldn't go to the courthouses. They'd have to use a rear door or side door. They couldn't use drinking fountains in the courtyard. Some of them weren't permitted to sit with their clients and in many northern cities, there was about the same situation. There just weren't many heroes in the law then."

But no one who knew him would suggest that Judge McCree's accomplishments were largely products of providence. Many have said that he was born, and always seemed destined, to become an esteemed jurist, notwithstanding the fact that he, like most others of his generation, endured the scourge of racism in the army (during World War II, he served in a segregated combat unit), in the job market, and elsewhere. As a graduate of the prestigious Boston Latin School, Fisk University (summa cum laude) and the Harvard Law School, Judge McCree was nevertheless unable to find employment as a lawyer on the east coast. When he came to Detroit to look for work in 1948, he was rejected by numerous all-white law firms. "Wade always had the bearing of dignity that shined through," says his wife of 41 years, Dores. Perhaps, Dores says, that is why his friends gave him the sobriquet "judge" before he even attended law school.

Judge McCree was also profoundly intellectual, a man of letters. Dores remembers how, in 1942, when he was home on his first weekend pass after having been drafted into the Army, they went on a double date during which Judge McCree and another soldier bragged about their ability to confound ranking



Lieutenant McCree

officers by speaking in Greek and Latin. His daughter, Kathleen McCree Lewis, a partner at the Detroit law firm, Dykema Gossett, also recalls his having a voracious intellectual appetite. She says that, for years, her father maintained subscriptions to Italian newspapers and other obscure, narrowly circulated periodicals.

“Judge McCree enjoyed studying everything,” said one of his former students. “When you walked into his office it looked like a clipping service. He carried stacks of books and articles. . . . And he would constantly rummage through his stack of papers and say, ‘Did you see this? Did you hear about this? Did you come across this idea?’”

In addition to his dignity and intellect, McCree’s reputation was enhanced by the widespread perception that he was reasonable and fair, that he did not use this country’s racist past as a moral cudgel, that he remained committed, first and foremost, to objectively interpreting and applying the law, not to advancing a specific political agenda. Mrs. McCree has commented: “I don’t think he permitted race to be the dominant factor in his decision-making. . . . It didn’t matter if someone who came before him was black. If he was wrong, he was wrong. If he was right, he was right. The law was always more important than the person’s race.”

Judge McCree’s nomination to the federal court was greeted by fanfare. The day after his nomination was announced, the Detroit Free Press ran a banner headline across the entire front page proclaiming, “McCree to Be U.S. Judge”.<sup>1</sup> On the federal bench, he often expressed his views on race and justice. Early in his judicial career, a lawyer asked him to excuse himself from a case in which a African-American sued a white person. McCree replied that he would excuse himself only if a mulatto judge could be found, adding that “the ultimate of arrogance is achieved when a white person thinks another white person can make a judgment without being influenced by race, and a black person cannot.”

Yet Judge McCree’s fierce independence sometimes incurred the wrath of African-Americans. “I guess a good many people didn’t approve of him,” says Does. “Some people, I’m sure, felt that he probably should have bent over a little more for black people.” During his 16 years as a federal judge, he is said to have hired only one African-American law clerk.

In 1963, Judge McCree received death threats when he presided over a federal trial of the late Orville Hubbard that failed to result in a guilty verdict. Hubbard, the long-time segregationist mayor of Dearborn, was indicted for violating the civil rights of a landlord accused of renting to African-Americans. “He . . . ruled . . . within the law, and would not bend it to protect anyone,” wrote the Honorable Horace W. Gilmore, a judge who sat with Judge McCree on the Wayne County Circuit Court and the District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. “He was totally and completely devoted to the rule of law.”

Outside the courtroom, Judge McCree was strongly committed to advancing the cause of African-Americans. Among other things, he worked to expand educational opportunities for African-Americans and directed a study of Detroit slums.

As a judge in the district court, McCree wrote 19 published opinions, all of which reflect his life-long love of language, an attribute that has been recalled by his former law clerks and colleagues, and is exemplified by the fact that he was an accomplished sonneteer. “He had a tremendous facility with language,” said Judge John Peck, who sat with McCree on the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. “He had a tremendous vocabulary and at that time the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals was a rather small court, and we lunched together almost daily. We always played a kind of a game. If any one of us had found a word which was extraordinarily difficult, we’d stir it up for the luncheon table and ask Wade what it meant. He invariably was able to give a definition of the word and then almost always to go on and give some view of the Latin or Greek origins of various parts of the word. That was always a source of amusement.”

Judge McCree’s opinions are also defined by his evident interest in protecting both the individual and the rule of law.<sup>2</sup> One of the district court opinions of which McCree is said to have been most proud was *United States v. Caplan*,<sup>3</sup> a case that, in Judge Gilmore’s words, “broke new ground by findings that pen register data, where lines were capable of interstate transportation, violated wiretap laws, and by extending the right of privacy through statutory construction.”

In Caplan, the defendants moved to quash search warrants that were based in part on information received from a pen register that gave IRS agents information on telephone numbers called. The information obtained from these pen registers was part of the basis for the issuance of the search warrants in the case. Judge McCree granted the motions to suppress, finding that the recording of the numbers was an interception within the meaning of the law:

I find that an “interception” took place under the circumstances here, and that . . . no authority can permit this. To the government’s argument that no “communication” was intercepted, defendants, in open court, demonstrated that it was possible to dial a number and to permit the phone to ring a specific number of times, and then to hang up. When this was done, the pen register dutifully recorded the fact that the number was called. History affords us the illustration of a pre-arranged signal. Paul Revere’s associate, who hung a lantern in the Old North church, would hardly have been exculpated at a trial for treason if he argued that he was not sending a communication, but was only illuminating the belfry. It seems that if the agents entertained no misgivings about the use of the pen register constituting an “interception” here, they would have frankly requested its employment instead of having resorted to the technique of stimulating the telephone company to do so by suggestion. The government should not be permitted to instigate an investigation that is unlawful any more than it can instigate conduct that is unlawful, as the entrapment cases teach.

As a district court judge, he also expanded the concept of effective assistance of counsel.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Do not forget to mark your calendar for November 19, 2002 at 11:30 a.m. That is the date and time for our Annual Meeting in conjunction with the FBA Edward H. Rakow Awards Luncheon. The program includes a discussion about the Anthony Liuzzo v. U.S. lawsuit for the death of Viola Liuzzo in Selma, Alabama during the 1965 civil-rights march.

More specifically, in *Evans v. Kropp*,<sup>4</sup> Judge McCree held that an attorney’s decision that his client would benefit more from being placed in a state prison rather than in a hospital for the criminally insane, which contributed to the attorney’s failure to advise the court of his client’s mental condition, violated the client’s constitutional rights. In so holding, Judge McCree wrote:

I believe that no lawyer, as an officer of the court, has the right to make such a judgment. Regardless of his personal views, he may not withhold from the court such critical information as the diagnosed mental incompetency of his client and of his consequent possible inability to stand trial. I find that Mr. O’Connell’s failure to inform the court of his client’s mental condition deprived petitioner of the effective assistance of counsel which is guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

Judge McCree also issued opinions that broadened a plaintiff’s right to conduct discovery, thereby enabling him or her to more easily advance claims. For example, in *Crowe v. Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Co.*,<sup>5</sup> a decision that significantly impacted the law of discovery, he held that a litigant had the right to discover contemporaneous statements made by a witness even if that witness was required to submit to his or her deposition. In finding that good cause existed to compel production of the statements, Judge McCree wrote:

[D]iscovery should not be less available where relevant, non-privileged information is contained in a document than when such information is lodged in the memory of a witness. . . . In view of the liberal spirit of the rules, the court should be disposed to grant such discovery as will accomplish full disclosure of facts, eliminate surprise, and promote settlement. . . . When both parties are apprised of all facts pertaining to a case, the issues can be narrowed, the trial shortened, surprise avoided, and the chances for a fair and amicable settlement enhanced.

Judge McCree would broadly construe the jurisdiction of his court if he felt that a plaintiff had alleged a colorable cause of action. For example, in *Chovan v. E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co.*,<sup>6</sup>

*(Continued on page 8)*

# The Eastern District Courthouse, Circa (1897), And The “Million Dollar Courtroom”

By Judy Christie

*This is the second of a two-part article on the 1897 Courthouse and the reconstruction of one of its courtrooms in the present-day courthouse. The first-part of this article discussed the architect and architecture of the 1897 courthouse, the architecture of the new courthouse and the efforts of Judge Tuttle to save the “Million Dollar Courtroom.”*

## The Courtroom

The Chief Judge’s courtroom stands as a symbol of excellence of nineteenth century craftsmanship. The walls are constructed of thirty different kinds of marble and the ornate woodwork is carved from East Indian mahogany. The room is filled with symbols of law and justice (See Figures 5 and 6).

When the room was reassembled (see Part I) only the floor and ceiling required alteration. Created by a local Detroit firm, the original floor was constructed of mosaic tiles that featured several different depictions of the law. Unfortunately the tiling was destroyed and the mosaic tiles were replaced with a dark rubber floor that has since been covered with carpet.

The only other major change was in the ceiling. The original ceiling was built of native red oak paneling. When the room was reconstructed the original beams were kept, but the red oak paneling was removed and replaced by white tiling with soft, indirect lighting. Aside from some movable furnishings such as chairs and tables, the ceiling tiles and the carpet are the only two modern touches in the courtroom.

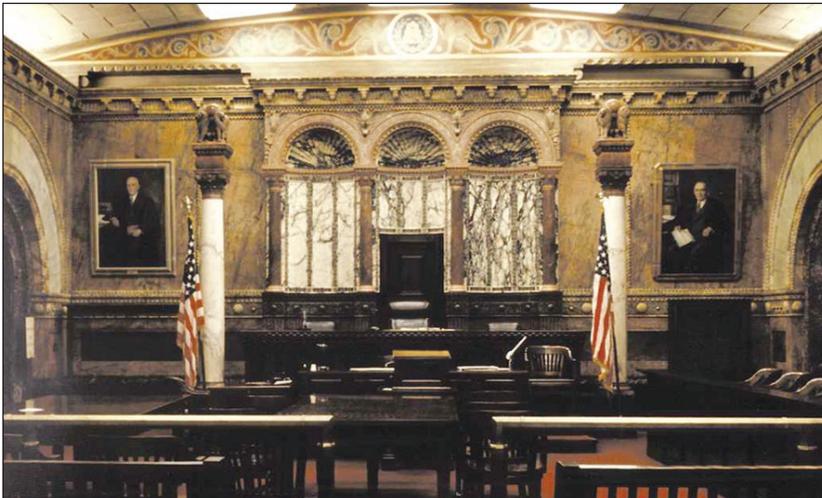


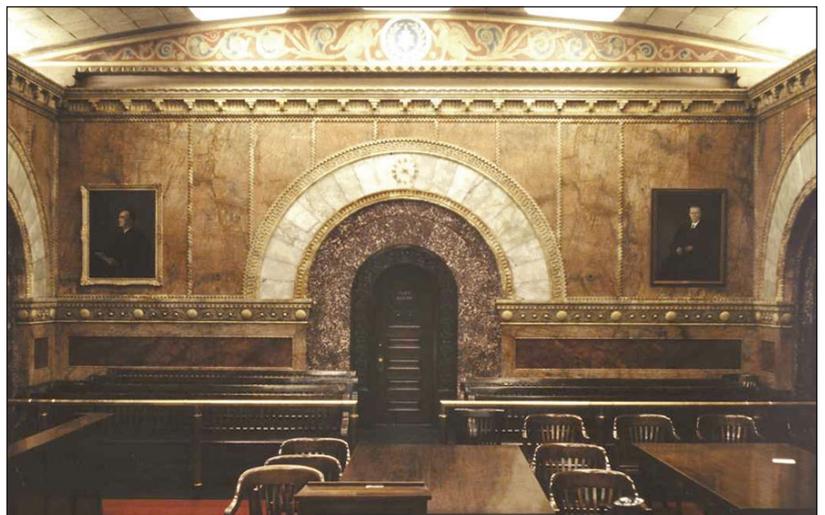
Figure 5 –

View of the front of the courtroom showing the three arch Richardson Romanesque design behind the bench and the white marble columns on either side.

Figure 6 –

View of the back of the courtroom showing the segmented white marble arch with a clock over the door to the jury room. Immediately above the arch is Greek key molding with a band of cabling underneath.

On top of the key molding is a band of crenelation molding. The arches along the side walls over the windows and entrance doors are constructed in the same manner.



## The Symbols

There are four original ceiling beams each painted with a symbol of law or justice.

Because only one side is visible, the end wall beams each have a single symbol while the other two beams have symbols on each

of the three visible sides. Starting with the beam behind the judge's bench the symbols, in order,



Figure 7 - Plumb Bob

begin with the Plumb Bob, symbolizing the rectitude of the court (Fig. 7). On the second beam appears the Judgment Seat, taken from the Bible (Fig. 8); and on the opposite side, there is a Wheel which is a



Figure 8 - Judgment Seat

symbol of equality of the law (Fig. 9). The soffit displays the figure of a woman holding a sword and the tablets of the Ten Commandments, symbolizing the enforcement of law (Fig. 10). On the third beam is the scroll on spindles, symbolizing the recording of court decisions for use as precedent (Fig. 11). Opposite the scroll is the Scepter and scroll, marking the authority of the court (Fig. 12). On the soffit is a figure of a woman holding a scroll and weights symbolizing justice (Fig. 13). On the fourth beam are the sword and unction pot, symbolizing justice tempered with mercy (Fig. 14).



Figure 9 - Wheel

On the fourth beam are the sword and unction pot, symbolizing justice tempered with mercy (Fig. 14).



Figure 10 - Woman Holding Sword with Tablets of the Ten Commandments

The symbols on the sides of the beams are each contained within a circle set on a blue background and circled by a ring of gold. Placed on either side of these circles are two sphinxes: winged figures having the body of a lion and the head of a man, a ram or a hawk. According to Greek myth, the sphinx



Figure 11 - Scroll on Spindles



Figure 12 - Scepter and Scroll

destroyed all who could not answer his riddle; thus, the symbols of justice encased in the golden circles are safe from destruction because the legal system can solve the riddles of law. Each of the symbols is centered on the beam and the rest of the beam is decorated with gold and blue scrollwork on a red background.

The female figures of justice and enforcement of the law are also centered on the soffit, or underside, of the beam. Set on a blue background, these figures are circled by a red ring with golden



Figure 13 - Woman Holding Scroll and Weights

stars bordered by a gold ring. The rest of the soffit is also painted with blue and gold scrollwork, but the scrolls are of different designs.



Figure 14 - Sword and Uction Pot

The wall behind the judge's bench frames three concave arches, the center one containing the mahogany door through which the judge enters the courtroom. The arches are faced with black and white marble inlaid with tiny mosaic tiles. The judge's bench itself is one of the finest touches in the room. Made of East Indian mahogany, it is elaborately carved with scrolls, flowers, leaves and bunches of grapes (Fig 15).



Figure 15 – Judge's Bench

Placed on either side of the bench are two twelve-foot white marble columns that were imported from Italy. The top of each column holds four lions supporting a globe on their backs. These columns serve a dual purpose: as guardians of the judge's bench and as symbols of the strength of justice (Fig. 16).



Figure 16 – Column Next to Judge's Bench

The columns serve as a crowning touch to a courtroom filled with the emblems of nineteenth-century America's sentiment for their legal system. Many of the symbols come from Greek mythology or the Bible, both of which were very important in American life in the later years of the century. Bible lessons were taken very seriously; religion was central in many people's lives so it was logical to use biblical symbols in the courtroom. Also understandable was the use of classical Greek symbols because the American government was modeled after ancient Greek and Roman democracies.



Since the courthouse was built, design of public buildings has undergone a transformation from elegant, even opulent, decoration to practical and utilitarian. Although this change stemmed generally from fiscal concerns, there is now an impersonal feel to many public buildings built since the end of the nineteenth century. In addition, courthouses used to serve a social as well as a legal function; people would gather at their local courthouse to talk to their neighbors and to find out the news of the day. The twentieth century saw the introduction of technology which eliminated the courthouses' social purpose. Form began to follow function in courthouse design.

## The Present

Anyone who has visited the “Million Dollar Courtroom” is grateful for Judge Tuttle’s foresight and tenacity in his effort to save it from destruction. When the original building was completed in 1897 architectural students from the University of Michigan came to Detroit to study the building. Architects said that, “It was one of the most beautiful examples of marble and frieze construction in the country.” Because the courtroom passes from outgoing to incoming Chief Judge, it is in use for the purpose for which it is intended. There are five former Chief Judges of the U.S. District Court who are still active at the time of this article: Sixth Circuit Judges Cornelia Kennedy and Damon Keith, District Judges John Feikens, Julian Abele Cook, Jr. and Anna Diggs Taylor, plus the current Chief Judge Lawrence P. Zatkoff. All have used the courtroom for regular hearings and trials. Recently the room underwent a complete restoration. Marble was cleaned, the painted ceiling was restored to its original beauty and a search is now on for the electrical fixtures appropriate to the late nineteenth century design. The courtroom still awes those who have occasion to see it. One visitor, after gazing silently about the hushed room, whispered, “I would never dare to tell a lie in here.” The symbolism in the courtroom, the elaborate carvings and paintings all induce a respect for the power of the law and for its manifestation in the person of the judge. ■

### Sources (continued):

8. Tuttle, Arthur J., *Manuscript* (Bentley Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan),. Scrapbook dated 1934-1939. “New Post Office to Open Doors This Morning.” *Detroit Free Press*. 23 April 1934.

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### Author’s Note

*Judy Christie is the Administrative Manager of the Eastern District Clerk’s Office. This part of the article, although originally the subject of an article by Alison M. Dawe, was totally re-written by Ms. Christie for inclusion in this newsletter.*

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## Judge McCree (Continued from page 4)

he held that Michigan’s long-arm statute allowed him to exercise personal jurisdiction over a Delaware corporation because it loaded fuse onto common carriers that drove into Michigan. But his concern for individual rights, including his ardently held belief that an allegedly aggrieved party is entitled to his day in court, was not so strong so as to compel him to sustain a cause of action when none, in fact, existed. In *Gaetzi v. Carling Brewery Co.*,<sup>7</sup> an oft-cited conflicts of law case, he refused to resuscitate a time-barred anti-trust claim by applying a six-year state statute of limitations when his review of applicable law lead him to conclude that a shorter federal statute controlled.

On a day-to-day basis, McCree enjoyed being a district court judge more than he enjoyed being an appellate court judge. “He enjoyed the interaction with the lawyers and their clients,” Does says. “The face-to-face interaction he had in the district court was just more exciting than what he did in the appeals court, where he spent so much time cloistered, writing and editing opinions.”

While serving on the Sixth Circuit, Judge McCree was prolific, writing 223 published majority opinions, 72 published dissents and 36 published concurrences. It is impossible to distill in this short space such a large body of legal opinions, which encompassed every area of law. It must suffice to say that, his appellate court work did nothing other than enhance his reputation as an even-handed, thoughtful and scholarly jurist. He issued opinions that, among many other things, protected criminal defendants’ right to an attorney, prevented states from overreaching to send defendants to jail, defined school districts’ duties to eradicate the effects of past unlawful discrimination, protected the environment, protected individuals’ First Amendment rights, narrowed the concept of federalism and protected the rights of individuals to have their day in court.

“I feel that [McCree] really came into his own as an appellate judge,” wrote the Honorable Pierce Lively, former Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. “He added greatly to the collegiality of the Court of Appeals by his soft-spoken approach to controversy and his ability to stand firm on principle without offending those with whom he disagreed.

His efforts to relieve the tension of a heated debate with bits of doggerel or a hastily written limerick endeared him to all who worked with him. These are qualities that can make the difference between a court where the judges merely tolerate one another, making no effort to know and accommodate each other's needs, and one that can truly be considered a 'court family.'"

After being a judge for 23 years, Judge McCree was offered the position of Solicitor General of the United States by President Carter. The Solicitor General is the chief appellate lawyer for the U.S. government and the Justice Department, and his or her duties include representing the executive branch before the U.S. Supreme Court. His decision to give up a lifetime appointment to the nation's second highest court and leave the bench, his greatest professional



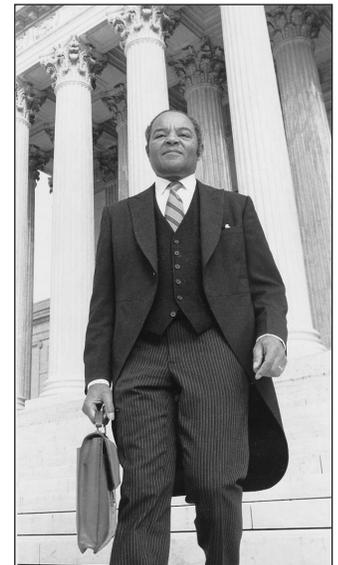
Solicitor General McCree and President Carter at White House reception

love, was one with which he struggled. "He later summed up his basic reason for accepting that appointment by saying when the President of the United States asks you to do something, you do it," said Judge Peck. "And in making that expression, I heard him as saying personal considerations be damned." In his first case, for which he had only three weeks to prepare, Judge McCree successfully argued that Richard Nixon's presidential tapes belonged, not to the former president, but to the government.

As Solicitor General, Judge McCree formulated the Carter Administration's position in *Bakke v. Regents of the University of California*,<sup>8</sup> in which, Allan Bakke, a white individual, claimed that his application to a California medical school had been turned down while less qualified minority applications had been accepted. Bakke was a cause celebre and subjected Judge McCree to protests

from civil rights leaders after a draft of his brief was leaked and revealed that he objected to quotas. At the time, he also alienated some civil rights leaders by saying, "I'm in favor of special admissions programs, but people who can outgrow them should not become dependent on them." Despite being subject to intense lobbying by civil rights groups, Judge McCree refused to reverse his position on quotas. Instead, he argued that race could be used as one of the criteria weighed in determining the admission of medical school candidates. In 1978, the Court ruled in favor of Bakke and ordered his admission to medical school. The Court agreed with Judge McCree that race could be a factor in a university's policy of seeking a diverse student body. However, it also found that, in Bakke's case, the school unconstitutionally applied a rigid quota system.

Warren Burger, the former Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, has been quoted as saying that he has not known a Solicitor General who exceeded the performance of Judge McCree. "I would rate him amongst the top of all the people who have ever been Solicitor General," said Griffin Bell, the U.S. Attorney General during the Carter Administration. "I thought it was very interesting that when President Reagan



Solicitor General McCree on steps of Supreme Court



Judge McCree being sworn in by Justice Burger while Doris McCree holds the Bible

was elected he kept Judge McCree up into May of the Reagan administration. That said a lot about Judge McCree. He was a professional and they weren't in a rush to get him out of the Justice Department."

The high esteem in which Judge McCree was held ultimately caused Justice Thurgood Marshall to feel threatened by him. "There was this perception by everyone that Wade was waiting in the wings to take over" for Justice Marshall at a time when Justice Marshall was suffering from a heart condition, says Does. "That created a little tension" between the two men.

When leaving the Solicitor General's office, Judge McCree was besieged by lucrative offers from major law firms across the country. But this erudite man declined them all, electing instead to return home to Michigan to become a professor at the University of Michigan Law School. The decision did not surprise. "He was a great warrior and judge partly because he was a natural teacher," said his daughter, Kathleen. "He had the ability to grasp issues. In fact, to understand them and to explain them to other people." Adds Does: "He couldn't help but teach. In the simplest situation, ask him a simple question and get a very involved answer. He's gonna teach you all you didn't know about something."

He taught at the University of Michigan until shortly before his death in 1987. When he died, newspapers across the country published obituaries that recounted Judge McCree's achievements, describing him as a Jackie Robinson, who changed the rules of the game, whose example made it easier for all African-Americans to attain important judicial positions.

But perhaps the most fitting eulogy was in the form of a sonnet that he wrote in 1974 in honor of Harold Bledsoe, a Detroit attorney who hired him in 1948:



Professor McCree

*When a tall tree falls, it makes a thund'rous sound  
To tell the forest that a giant is dead,  
And now, there seems an empty plot of ground  
Where once a stalwart presence raised its head.*

*But if we look, the ground on which it stood  
Brings forth green seedlings, reaching for the sun  
To find their place as stalwarts in the wood  
Beginning as their parent had begun.*

*And so, the great soul whom we mourn today  
Has not left us without a legacy  
A host of fledglings studied 'neath his sway  
Each one may someday be a mighty tree.*

*Thus God, His will inexorable ordains  
To make us mortals know that He still reigns.*

The Free Press published the sonnet shortly after McCree's death, saying, "He could have written it for himself."<sup>9</sup> ■

### Sources:

1. *Detroit Free Press*, 15 Sept. 1961: A1.
2. 86 Mich L. R. 2 (1987).
3. 255 F. Supp. 805 (E.D. Mich. 1966).
4. 254 F. Supp. 218 (E.D. Mich. 1966).
5. 29 F.R.D. 148 (E.D. Mich. 1961).
6. 217 F. Supp. 808 (E.D. Mich. 1963).
7. 205 F. Supp. 615 (E.D. Mich. 1962).
8. 438 U.S. 265; 98 S. Ct. 2733, 57 L Ed. 2d. 750 (1978).
9. Fitzgerald, Jim, "Wade McCree's Sonnet Makes Fitting Eulogy," *Detroit Free Press*, 4 Sept. 1987: F16.

### Author's Note

Andrew Doctoroff is a partner at Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn, a Detroit Law Firm. Following his graduation from the University of Michigan Law School in 1990 he served two years as a law clerk for Judge Avern Cohn of the Eastern District of Michigan (1990-1992). At the Honigman firm Mr. Doctoroff specializes in commercial litigation.

## WANTED

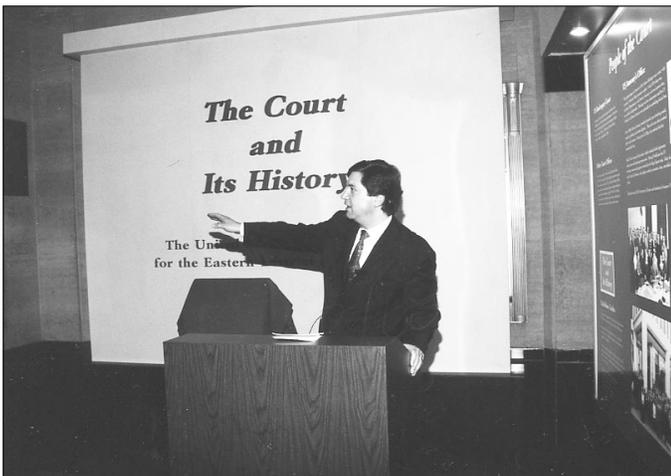
The Society is endeavoring to acquire artifacts, memorabilia, photographs, literature or any other materials related to the history of the Court and its members. If any of our members, or others, have anything they would care to share with us, please contact the Acquisitions Committee at (313) 234-5049.

# Historical Society Dedicates Museum

On Wednesday, May 1, 2002, a dedication ceremony was held for the exhibition gallery and the unveiling of the computer kiosk on the first floor of the courthouse. The opening was the culmination of the efforts of Chief Judge Zatkoff, and Judges Cohn and Feikens, in obtaining the allocated space, and the vision of Past President Bill Winsten in developing and producing the displays.



Attendees waiting for the ceremony to start



Bill Winsten describes the displays



Senior Judge John Feikens reminisces about court events of historical significance



Judge Feikens, Mike Leibson, Mike Lavoie, Chief Judge Zatkoff, Jeff Sadowski, Judge Cohn and Bill Winsten gather before the presentation



Attendees view the displays after the ceremony

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Membership contributions to the Society are tax deductible within the limits of the law.

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
DAY EVENING

This is a gift membership from:  
\_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTIONNAIRE

We would like to know about your interests and skills. Please fill in this questionnaire and mail it with your membership fee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Special interests in the field of legal history:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions for programs or projects:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Indicate interest in Society's activities:

- Writing articles for the Society newsletter
- Conference planning
- Oral history
- Research in special topics in legal history
- Fund development for the Society
- Membership recruitment
- Archival preservation
- Exhibit preparation
- Educational programs
- Other (*please describe*): \_\_\_\_\_

*THIS FORM MAY BE DUPLICATED AND SUBMITTED WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE*

*The Historical Society  
U.S. District Court  
Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse  
Detroit, Michigan 48226*